STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; Hmong people are an ethnically and culturally diverse group of people originally from southern China and Southeast Asia, specifically Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and Myanmar; and

WHEREAS; thousands of Hmong people courageously fought alongside Americans during the Vietnam War, and many were ultimately forced to flee and resettle in communities throughout the United States, including Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has the third largest Hmong population in the United States, and Hmong Americans have lived and worked in Wisconsin for more than four decades, contributing to the state's rich history, culture, economy, and public service; and

WHEREAS; the Hmong New Year has historically occurred following the harvest season to celebrate the conclusion of one year and the welcoming of the next, and in the United States, these celebrations enable Hmong Americans to strengthen social ties, maintain cultural identity, and pass on traditions to the next generation; and

WHEREAS; cultural celebrations like the Hmong New Year also serve as learning opportunities that can help people of all backgrounds better understand one another and build a brighter, more inclusive future; and

WHEREAS; in recognition of the diversity within Hmong communities across Wisconsin and nationwide, a specific Hmong New Year date is not observed, and instead, a Hmong New Year season is recognized; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin celebrates the contributions of Hmong Wisconsinites to the historical, cultural, and economic fabric of the state and wishes all Hmong Wisconsinites a very happy new year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September – December 2023 as

HMONG NEW YEAR SEASON

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREC

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 3rd day of November 2023.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI Secretary of State